

**For Immediate Release**

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**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**DOT SECRETARY SLATER TO OUTLINE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF FERRIES**

*Slater calls Ferry Summit in Seattle to promote the use of ferries for cargo and commuters*

**What:** “U.S. Ferry Transportation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Conference” sponsored by the United States Department of Transportation (DOT). This two-day conference targets policy makers and planners at the state and local level; public and private sector individuals who design, construct, operate and manage ferry systems. Open to the public and media.

**When:** Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1113 Sixth Ave., Seattle, WA

**Who:** Sponsored by: U.S. Secretary of Transportation Rodney E. Slater, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Maritime Administration and U.S. Coast Guard.

**Why:** The growth in urban centers and the resulting increase in highway congestion have forced planners to take a closer look at all forms of intermodal transportation. Communities calling for accessible, affordable and reliable transportation systems for all people and goods that support safe, secure and environmentally friendly economic growth resulted in resurgence in both private and public ferry fleets. Increasingly, ferries are being integrated into transit systems as commuter taxi services and as an alternative system for the movement of cargo.

This resurgence has been fueled, in part, by federal dollars and the shipbuilding loan guarantee program. The Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21) reauthorized the funding category of the construction of ferries and ferry terminal facilities. TEA-21 has more than double the funds that are now available for construction through fiscal year 2003.

To facilitate a public discussion of the issues facing emerging or existing ferry systems, the DOT has organized this conference to promote the use of ferries to meet the demands of moving people, motor transport and cargo in the new century.

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**DOT Ferry Conference, page two:**

**Registration/Cost:** \$35.00. for general registration. No cost for members of the media, however journalists need to complete the form below and fax it to: Jennifer Holder at 206/285-2551.

**More Info:** For more information or to pre-schedule an interview with Secretary Slater and other key officials, please contact: Jennifer Holder at 206/270-4661. We will make our best effort to fulfill as many requests as possible.

**U.S. FERRY TRANSPORTATION IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY CONFERENCE Media  
Registration Form**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title (reporter, editor, freelancer, etc.):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Media Outlet:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I will be attending:**      ☐ June 8, 2000      ☐ June 9, 2000      ☐ Both days